

We returned to refuel and shut down at LZ Star to stand-by for further instructions.

We were told that a BRIGHT LIGHT team had in the meantime been inserted into the area near both the recon team and downed ship and that we would attempt a first-light extraction the next day.

The next morning after a tac-air preparation on the enemy location, the bright light team and four members of the recon team were extracted, but with still no signal from or contact with the downed aircrew.

Later in the day, around 1300 hours a twenty man platoon was inserted near the original PZ. They recovered several bodies of recon team members and an injured crew chief from the downed helicopter, but had no contact with the other missing crew members.

All during that time, we could monitor over guard frequency a very loud beeper distress signal, however, we could not establish voice communications with anyone over guard.

Later, after the recovery platoon was extracted, we returned to the target area and located and picked up a man who proved to be the door-gunner on the downed CH-1E.

We stayed in the target area until our fuel was low and then returned to base and were released.

William D. Loftin
WILLIAM D. LOFTIN
CPT, IN
Co D, 158th Avn Bn (AF)

EXB "N"